Designing the future of health workforce
Today’s population is aging thanks to global improvement in health care and living conditions. It is estimated that by 2020, the population of the elderly worldwide would be more than 700 million with two-third in the developing countries [1] [2].

Advancing age is a high risk factor for cancer, with individuals over 65 accounting for 60% of newly diagnosed malignancies and 70% of all cancer deaths, mainly prostate, bladder, colon, uterus, pancreas, stomach, rectum, and lung carcinomas [1] [3] [4].

14 million new cases were diagnosed in 2012 and this number could rise up to 22 within the next 2 decades [5].

In developed countries, half of the cancers already occur in patients aged 70 and older [5].

Why Geriatric Oncology?

**WHOA Cancer Resolution 2017**

*Member States should increase efforts to strengthen health systems at the national and local levels to ensure early diagnosis and accessible, affordable and high quality care for all cancer patients*

Over the coming decades Asia will rapidly age, governments must prepare for this reality.

**Incidence of cancer by age group**

WHO, through its cancer research agency, International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), maintains a classification of cancer-causing agents.

Ageing is a fundamental factor for the development of cancer.

The incidence of cancer rises dramatically with age, most likely due to a build-up of risks for specific cancers that increase with age. The overall risk accumulation is combined with the tendency for cellular repair mechanisms to be less effective as a person grows older.

*World Cancer Report 2014, WHO*
http://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/cancer
Why Geriatric Oncology?

More than two thirds of cancer diagnoses occur in people aged over 65 years.

More carefully tailored and closely monitored clinical plans

- Age related changes to tumour biology
- Lack of research on effective treatments for older people
- Increased vulnerability to the side effects of treatments
- Inadequate screening and assessment instruments as validated tools in clinical practice

How prepared is the current workforce

- Education, Training & Development
- Practice & Tools
- Skills & Competencies
- Capacity & Access

Why Geriatric Oncology?

Main priorities for the development of geriatric oncology: A worldwide expert perspective
Martine Extermann; Matti Aapro; Riccardo Audisio; Lodovico Balducci; Jean-Pierre Droz; Christopher Steer; Hans Wildiers; Gilbert Zulian


Objective: The world population is aging rapidly, thanks to improvements in nutrition, sanitation, disease treatment and prevention (notably for infectious diseases), and better economic conditions. As aging is the main risk factor for cancer, its incidence follows suit. This represents a worldwide challenge and addressing it correctly will require a vast international effort and clear priorities.

Methods: The International Society of Geriatric Oncology (SIOG), a multidisciplinary society of experts in the field, decided to identify those priorities. The SIOG National Representatives (NRs) were asked first to identify the 10 highest priorities to address on a worldwide scale. Then, the NRs were asked to identify how these priorities were/could be implemented in their country. A writing committee assembled and edited the results.

Results: We identified 3 key areas of priority: education, clinical practice, and research. Education should be targeted at both the professional and the population levels. In clinical practice, pilot models of multidisciplinary collaboration should be expanded first to key reference centers, and a 2-step approach to screening and evaluation should be used to optimize resource use. In research, several strategies can render trials more relevant for older patients.

Conclusions: These priorities represent an expert consensus with potential to guide education, clinical practice, and research to improve the care of older cancer patients throughout the world.
About SIOG

• SIOG is powered by global collaborations to foster the development of health professionals.

• Our general objective is to strengthen national capacity for Human Resources for Health (HRH) and to promote for SDG3 by focusing on the treatment, health and quality of life of older people living with cancer.

• SIOG works through expert consensus to guide education, clinical practice, and research to improve the care of older cancer patients throughout the world.
**EDUCATION**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Tools</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dissemination of knowledge to maintain a common standard of quality healthcare in older cancer patients</td>
<td>• Journal of Geriatric Oncology (JGO)</td>
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<td>• SIOG Annual Conference</td>
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<td>Integrate geriatric oncology in the curricula of medical and nursing education to ensure a contextualised and high standard of qualification for healthcare professionals</td>
<td>• SIOG Regional Forums (APAC, LATAM, USA, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Address the shortage of specialised oncologists/geriatricians &amp; allied health professionals in geriatric oncology</td>
<td>• SIOG Annual Geriatric Oncology Advanced Course</td>
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<td>Successful global advocacy through support to country initiatives for health workforce development and inclusion of NCDs in the UN 2030 Agenda.</td>
<td>• SIOG Education online e-learning modules</td>
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<td>• Educational Geriatric Oncology Books (in collaboration with ESMO; Education Resources: SIOG-ASCO)</td>
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<td>• Close collaboration with cancer educational organisations (ASCO, ESMO, ECCO, MASCC, SABCS, ASH, EUGMS, EONS, Europa Donna, Europa Uomo, IAGG)</td>
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<td>• SIOG Guidelines: Expert recommendations &amp; guidelines published in international scientific journals (Lancet Oncology, Annals of Oncology, JCO etc.)</td>
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Clinical practice

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<td>Integrate geriatric evaluation (including comorbidities) into oncology decision-making and guidelines</td>
<td>• Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment</td>
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<td>Improve the quality of prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up of older patients with malignancies</td>
<td>• SIOG Clinical Guidelines</td>
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<td>Address issues of access to care, including the needs of the caregiver</td>
<td>• SIOG Task Forces active in various fields of geriatric oncology to produce position papers, consensus statements or clinical practice guidelines*</td>
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<td>Develop interdisciplinary geriatric oncology clinics</td>
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Three key areas of priority: education, clinical practice, and research

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<tr>
<td>Develop, test and disseminate easy screening tools</td>
<td>• SIOG Geriatric Oncology Practice Centers Registry - research facilitating platform (under development)</td>
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<td>Create a clear and operational definition of vulnerability/frailty applicable to oncology</td>
<td>• Geriatric Oncology grant for Young Researchers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increase the relevance of clinical trials for older patients</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improve research in the field of geriatric oncology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Promote multidisciplinary, basic/translational research on the interface of aging and cancer</td>
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Journal of Geriatric Oncology

- SIOG’s official journal launched in 2010
- International, multidisciplinary focus on advancing research in the pathogenesis, biology, treatment, survivorship issues of older adults with cancer
- Covers all aspects of geriatric oncology, from basic scientific research through to clinical research, as well as research relevant to education and policy development
- Published 6 times per year as of 2015
- Indexed in PubMed/MEDLINE
- Impact factor 3.359 (as of July 2017)
SIOG Members

Total number of members: 1728 members
Country Representation: 48 countries represented
SIOG Impact

• More than **350,000 older patients** per year treated directly by SIOG members (over 65 years old)
• Raising Geriatric Oncology awareness and developing medical education in **34 countries** through **27 National Representatives**.
• SIOG activity announcements are distributed to **8’253 physicians** and **allied health professionals** 3 times/month.
• Since January 2013, SIOG has reached out to more than **56,620 professionals** active in geriatric oncology.
• SIOG on-line educational activities has an out-reach of **15’000 physicians** monthly (SIOG & eCancer combined)
International Society of Geriatric Oncology
Designing the future of health workforce

SIOG Annual Conferences

- **SIOG 2018 Annual Conference** – Amsterdam, The Netherlands
  “Geriatric Oncology – Becoming Mainstream Care”

- **SIOG 2017 Annual Conference** – Warsaw, Poland
  “From Research to Practice: Incorporating Geriatric Oncology into Patient Care”

- **SIOG 2016 Annual Conference** – Milan, Italy – 27-29 October 2016
  Geriatric Oncology: a multidisciplinary approach in a global environment

SIOG Regional Meetings

- **SIOG LATAM 2017** – Sao Paulo, Brazil
  October 26-27, 2017

- **SIOG USA FORUM 2015** – Tampa, Florida
  April 11, 2015

- **SIOG APAC 2014** – Singapore
  November 11-12, 2014
SIOG Annual Conferences

- Three day scientific conference built around different tracks:
  - Track 1: solid tumours
  - Track 2: haematologic malignancies
  - Track 3: supportive and palliative care,
  - Track 4: modern diagnostics and therapeutic areas,
  - Track 5: geriatric assessment/nursing/socio-economic issues

- Programme composed of 35 sessions: plenary sessions, track case based sessions, abstract sessions, debates, satellite sessions from the Industry, etc
- 65 speakers, 190 abstracts submitted
- CME accredited (19 points)
- Conference regularly endorsed/auspices by MASCC, ESSO, ESO, UICC, ASCO

The SIOG 2018 Annual Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 16/11/2018-18/11/2018 has been granted 19 European CME credits (ECMEC®s) by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME®).
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SIOG Task Forces

SIOG Task Forces develop a series of experts’ recommendation/guidelines for publication in international scientific journals (Lancet Oncology, Annals of Oncology, JCO, EJC).

Examples of SIOG Task Forces:

- Oral chemotherapy treatment in the elderly with solid tumours
- Use of taxanes in older breast cancer patients
- The use of radiopharmaceuticals in older patients with cancer
- Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia in older patients (CLL)
- Anti-HER2 targeted treatments in the elderly with breast cancer
- Bone protection in older patients with cancer
- Genomic prognosis and predictive tools for elderly cancer patients
- A meta-analysis of cetuximab-based chemotherapy in the management of older patients with mCRC
- Anthracycline cardiotoxicity in the elderly cancer patient

All SIOG published and past guidelines are available on [http://www.siog.org/node/83](http://www.siog.org/node/83)
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SIOG e-learning Modules /Webinars / Podcasts

• Online educational tools dedicated to the management of older patients with cancer.
• These free, continuing education activities aim to identify patient- and disease-related factors in the course of treatments, and share expert perspectives about strategies and tools for providing optimal care for older patients with cancer.

**Examples of e-learning modules**

- Management of prostate cancer in older patients*
- Management of colorectal cancer in older patients*
- The use of radiopharmaceuticals in older patients with cancer*
- The treatment of CLL in older patients*
- Oral chemotherapy in older cancer patients*

**Examples of webinars/ webcasts / podcasts**

- Geriatric oncology for nurses
- Geriatric Assessment to stratify treatment of older cancer patients
- Why is it so important in our elderly breast cancer patient?
- Geriatric Oncology: a multidisciplinary approach in action
- Drug drug interaction in older cancer patients*
- Practical application of frailty in an older adult with newly diagnosed multiple myeloma

*Funded by unrestricted educational grants
SIOG Educational Courses

SIOG Advanced Geriatric Oncology Course

SIOG’s unique CME accredited training programmes are delivered by international experts in the field of geriatrics and oncology. The courses have been designed to meet the educational needs of healthcare professionals involved in the diagnosis, treatment or management of elderly patients with cancer.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES
The SIOG advanced courses provide the basis of the assessment and the multi-dimensional approach that should be applied to treatment of elderly cancer patients. The course covers general principles of cancer treatment using case-based discussions and debates in geriatrics for clinical oncologists as well as in clinical oncology for geriatricians.

AUDIENCE
SIOG Advanced Course of 2018 was attended by geriatricians, medical oncologists, surgical oncologists, radiation oncologists and anaesthesiologists from 17 different countries.

FACULTY
Course director: Silvio Monfardini (IT)
Course co-director: Etienne Brain (FR)
Course coordinator: Giuseppe Colloca (IT)

ACCREDITATION
Accredited for 23 European CME credits (ECMEC®s)

The programme is an ESO recommended activity and is held with the support of

Admissions open on October 15, 2018
For more information please contact events@siog.org
SIOG Preceptorship

Breast Cancer in Older Women

Designed to give the professionally trained student experience outside the academic environment working with a licensed professional or other advisory.

With the aim of covering the main geriatric oncology issues, the courses are designed primarily for medical and clinical oncologists and aim to educate participants about the current standards of care older adults with cancer. They are particularly suitable for young oncologists and for general oncologists wishing to acquire or update their geriatric oncology knowledge. Each course is accredited by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME).

The SIOG 2 days Preceptorship courses, which include plenary lectures from a multidisciplinary faculty and case-based discussions, offer a unique learning experience: small size and emphasis on interaction with fellow participants and faculty. Emphasis on interaction and adequate discussion time is provided after all sessions. In order to optimise interaction, participation is limited to about 30 delegates per course.

SIOG preceptorships focus on specific geriatric oncology problematics and aims to provide oncologists with a thorough understanding of the management of the disease in older adults from diagnosis to treatment, according to current standards of care in a multidisciplinary setting.

SIOG preceptorships are also a great opportunity for participants to expand their professional network as each course is limited to 30 attendees to ensure interaction with participants and faculty members.

Learning objectives

- Understand why geriatric evaluation is important in older cancer patients
- Learn how to interpret and perform geriatric evaluation in older cancer patients
- Suggestions for improved collaboration with local geriatrics teams
- Gain insight in epidemiology, diagnostic and treatment strategies in older women with breast cancer
The SIOG Geriatric Oncology Fellowship Programme aims to promote professional development, research and education in the field, connections between existing programmes and mentoring of young professionals. This will increase the number of health professionals trained in the field, improve the education of young professionals and the quality of older cancer patients’ care.

Eligible candidates

Eligible candidates include PhD-students and trainees (during any year of training) and oncologists, nurses and allied health professionals within five years from completion of training.

Research Fellowships

Activities: Research projects (retrospective and prospective protocols, epidemiology, laboratory research) aiming to improve care for older cancer patients.

Duration: 2-6 months

Clinical Fellowships

Activities: Observership/clinical attachment aiming to improve knowledge in geriatric oncology and to facilitate its implementation in the Institution of origin.

Duration: 1-3 months
SUMMARY: BROAD OUTLINES OF SIOG

**SIOG Programmes**
- The SIOG Annual Conference
- Journal of Geriatric Oncology
- SIOG Task Forces
- SIOG Guidelines & Practices
- SIOG CME Courses
- SIOG labelled events
- SIOG Educational Books

**SIOG Activities**
- Conducting field-based research for improvement of cancer care for older patients
- Supporting country health policies and systems
- Producing scientific knowledge in support of evidence-based health policies
- Delivering educational programmes and tools, training as well as skills development

**SIOG Interest Groups**
- Young SIOG Interest Group
- Nursing and Allied Health Interest Group
- Observatory

**SIOG Awards**
- Paul Calabresi Award
- SIOG Nursing and Allied Health Investigator Award
- Young SIOG Research Prize
- Young SIOG Investigator Award
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SIOG Sponsors

SIOG Corporate Support

SIOG Annual Conferences Sponsors (since 2012)

SIOG Educational Partners

More info at www.siog.org